

Amdt. dated July 19, 2004
Reply to Office action of 05/17/2004

Serial No. 09/557,633
Docket No. ST997054
Firm No. 0054.0005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Double Patenting Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-39 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-45 of US Patent No. 6,631,516. In response, Applicants are submitting a terminal disclaimer to obviate the double patenting rejection.

Applicants maintain that the terminal disclaimer being submitted with the response overcomes the Examiner's rejection of claims 1-39. Therefore, claims 1-39 are patentable over the cited art.

Conclusion

For all the above reasons, Applicant submits that the pending claims 1-39 are patentable over the art of record. Applicants have not added any claims. Nonetheless, should any additional fees be required, please charge Deposit Account No. 09-0460.

The attorney of record invites the Examiner to contact him at (310) 557-2292 if the Examiner believes such contact would advance the prosecution of the case.

Dated: July 19, 2004

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